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Cover Colors

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Editor

Previously:

The first shots of Rick's war have been fired. Though Rick's attack left the Saviors trapped in their base, pinned in by walkers, Holly sacrificed herself to ensure victory, and has been taken prisoner by Negan.

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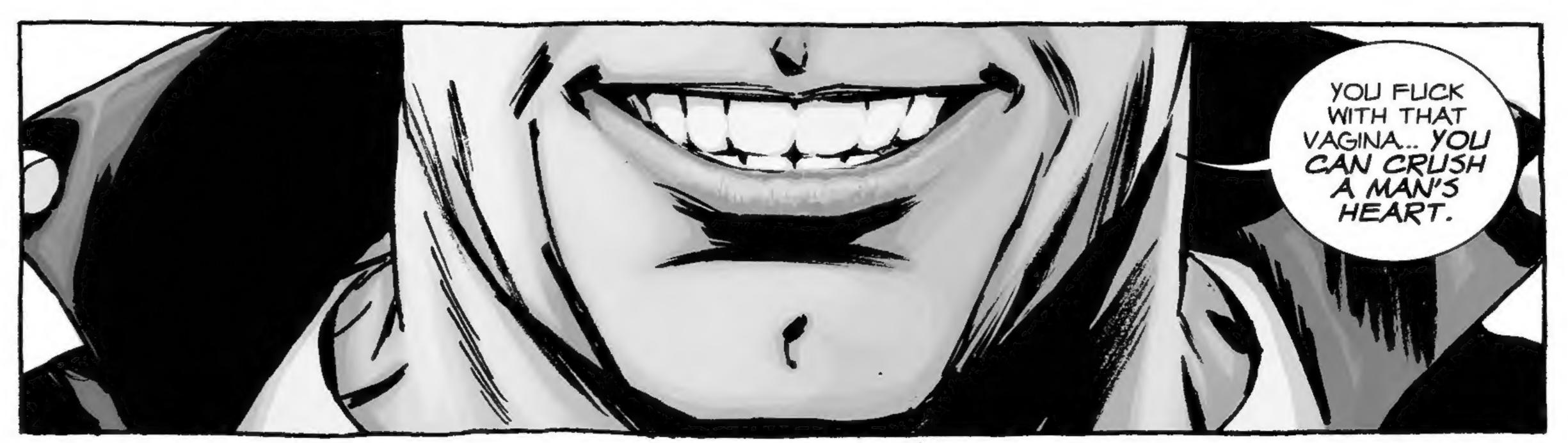
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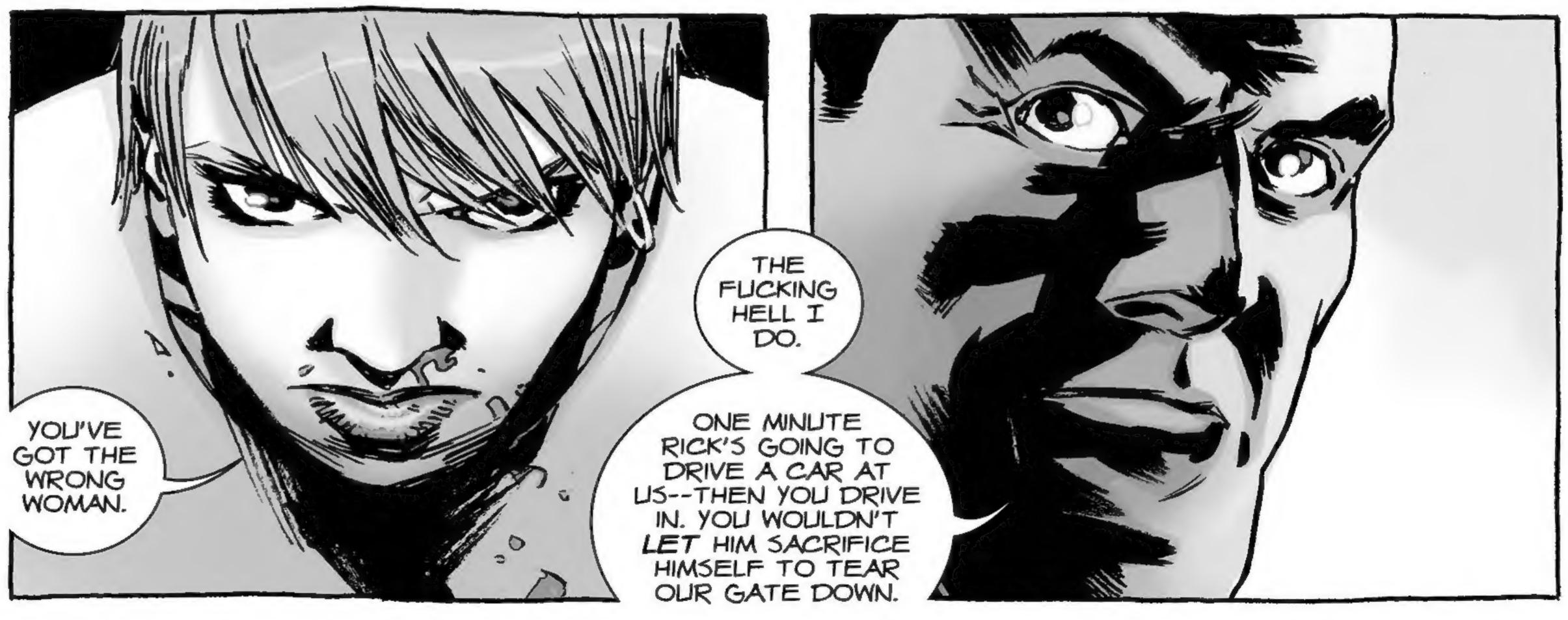
























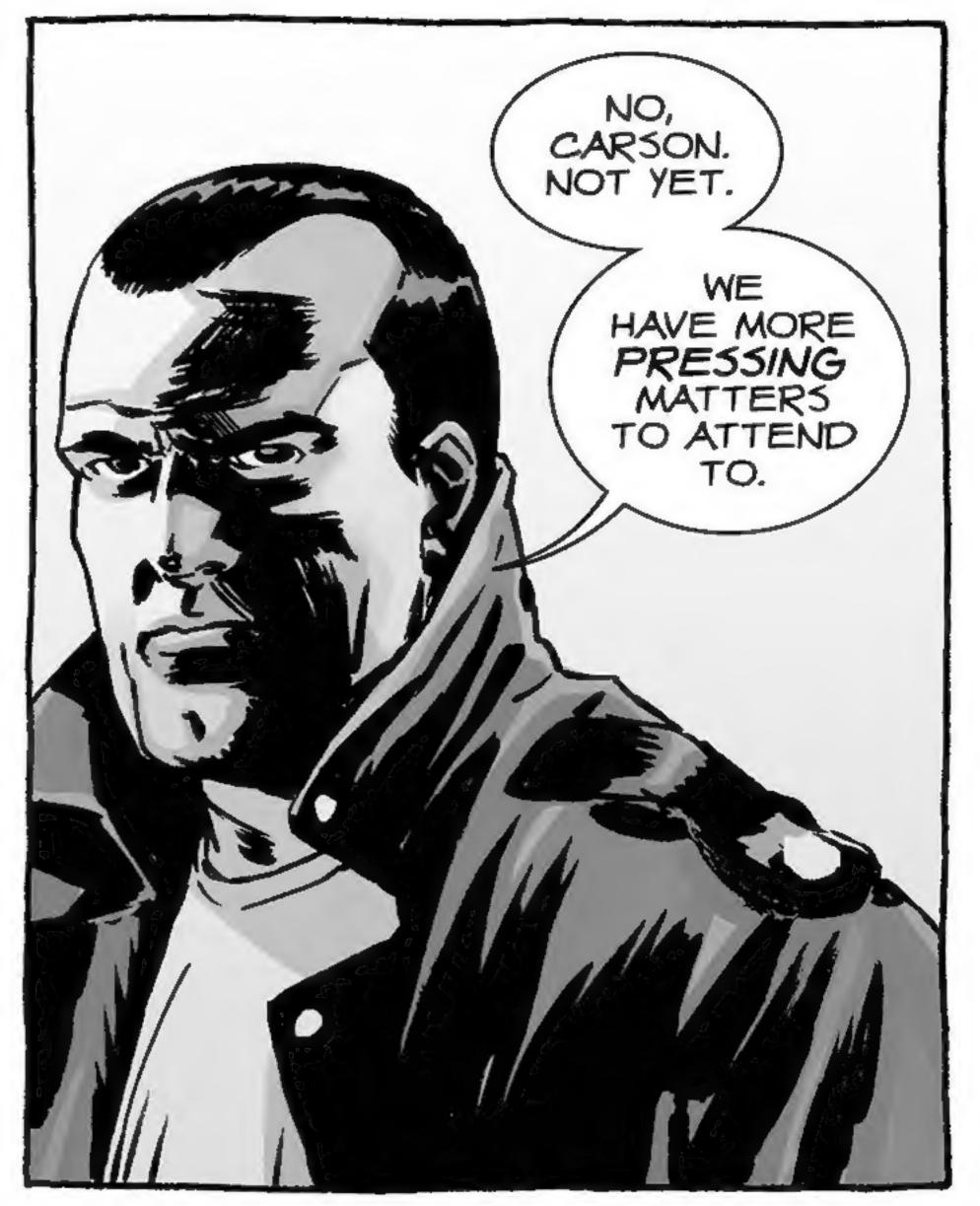


















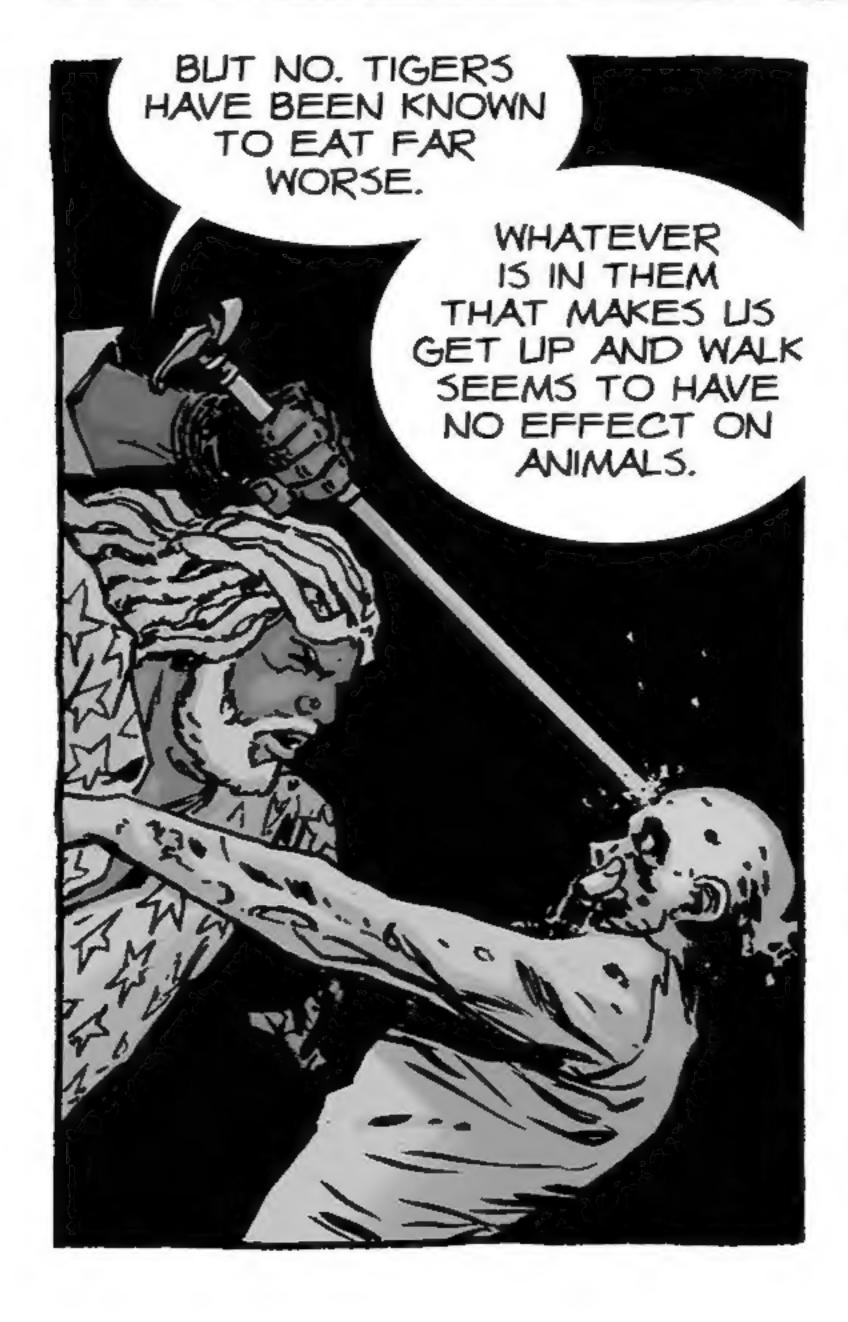






















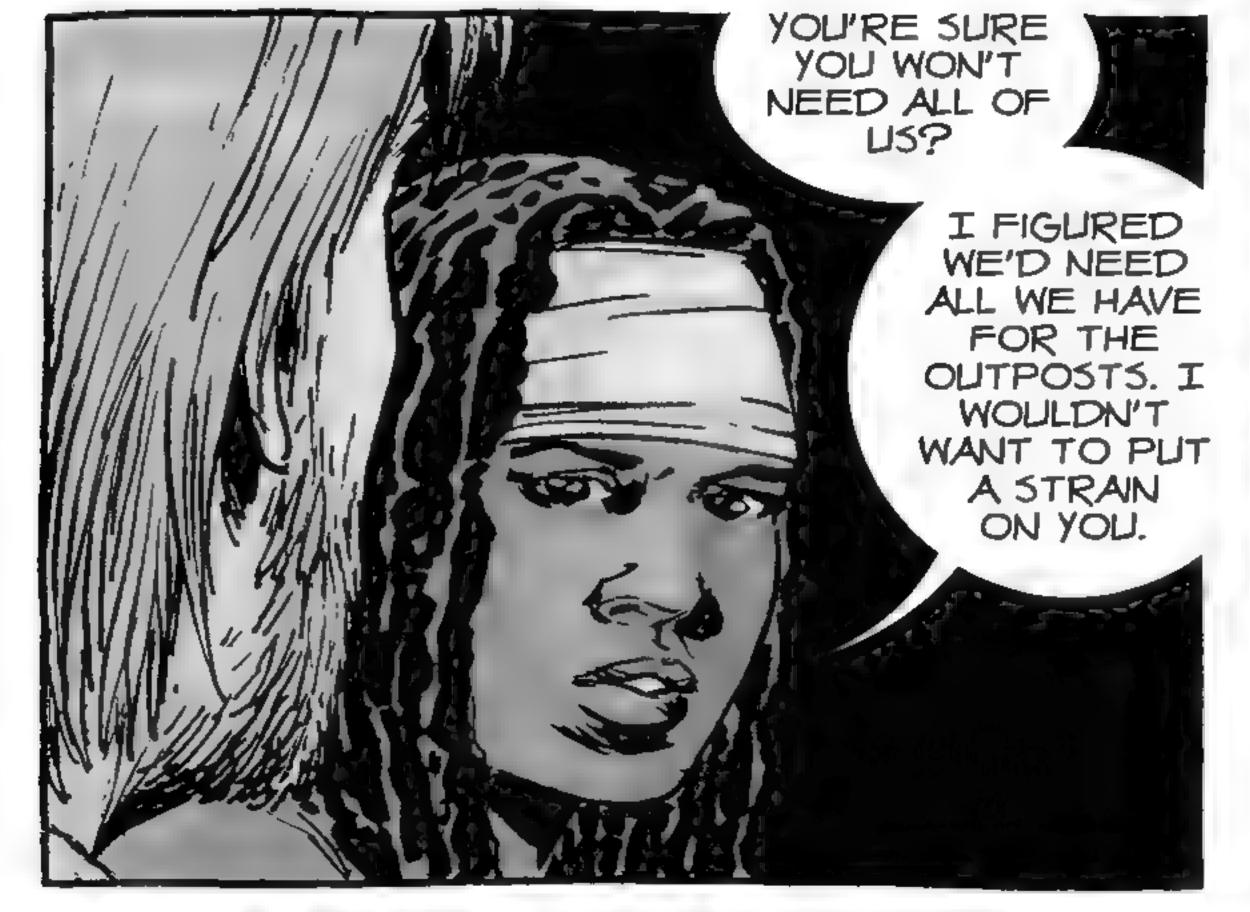






















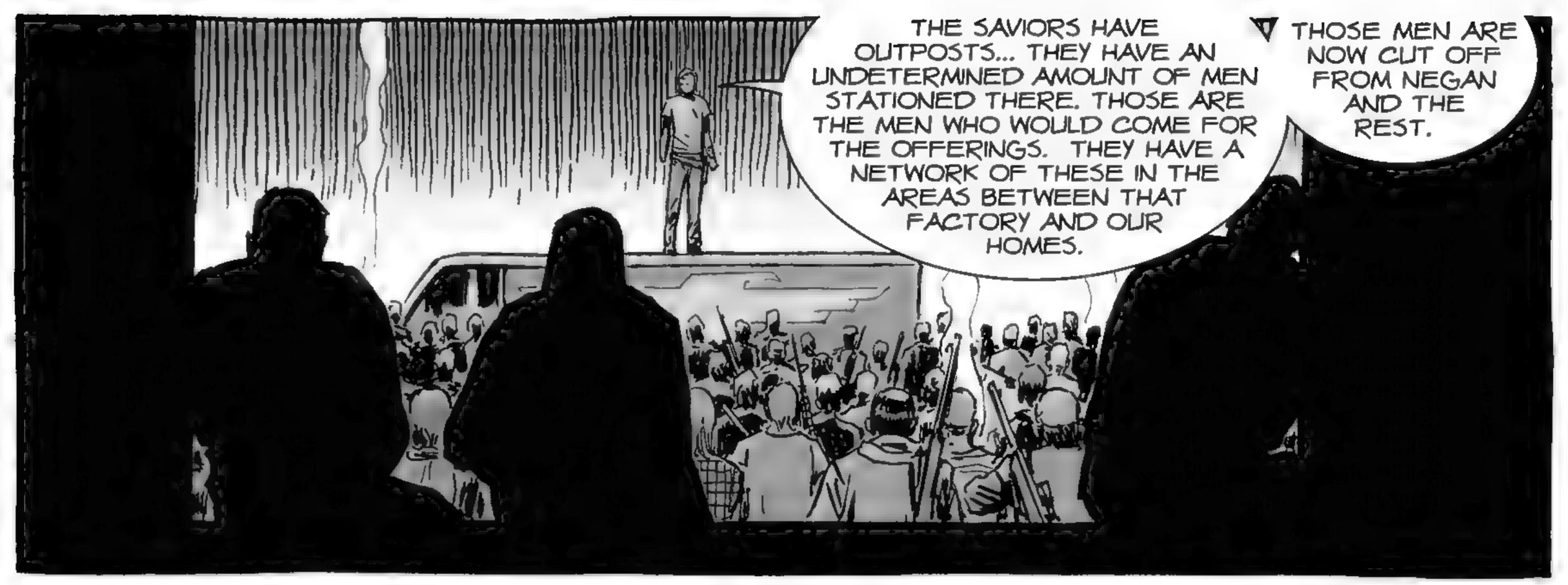
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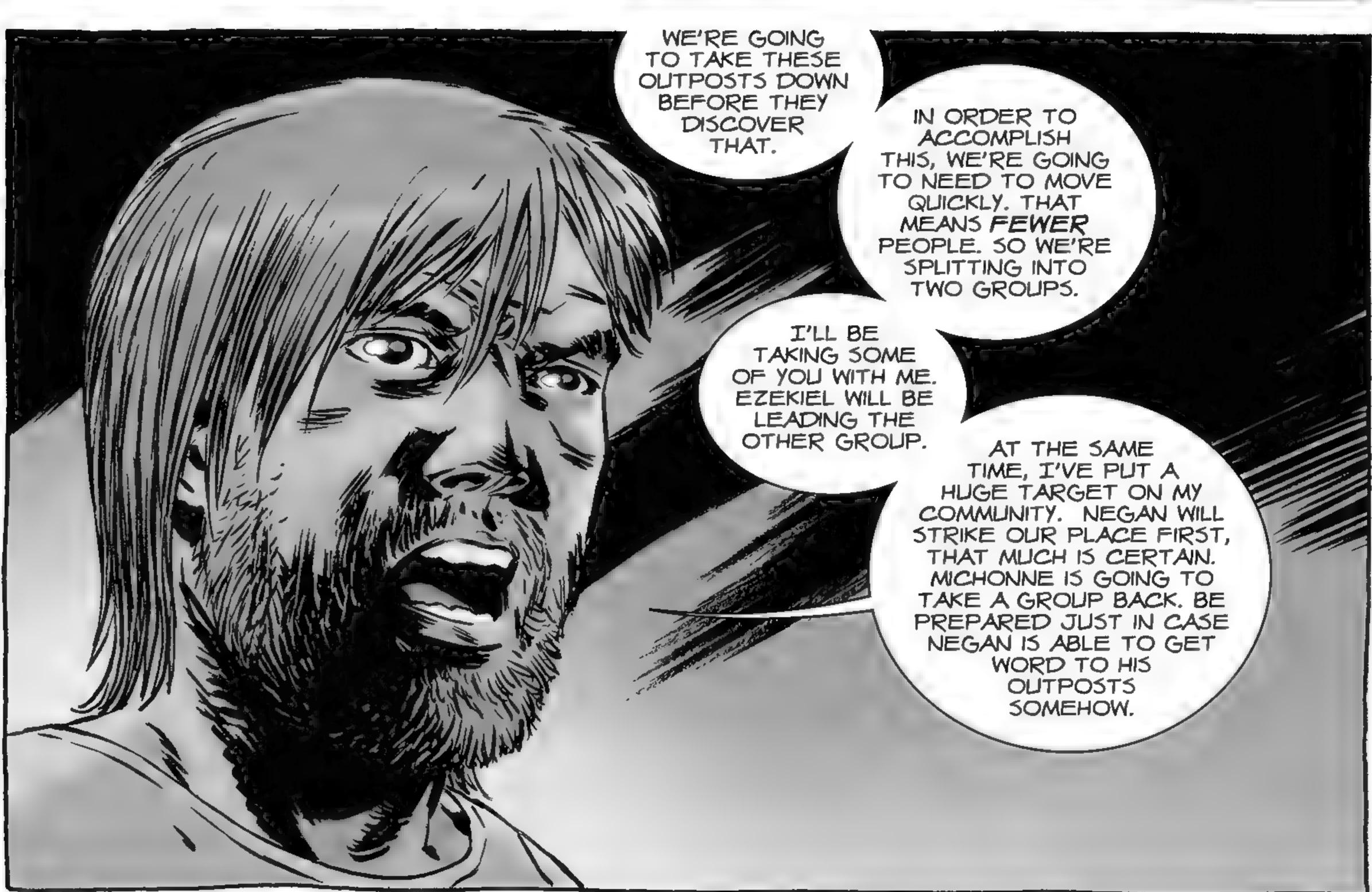


















































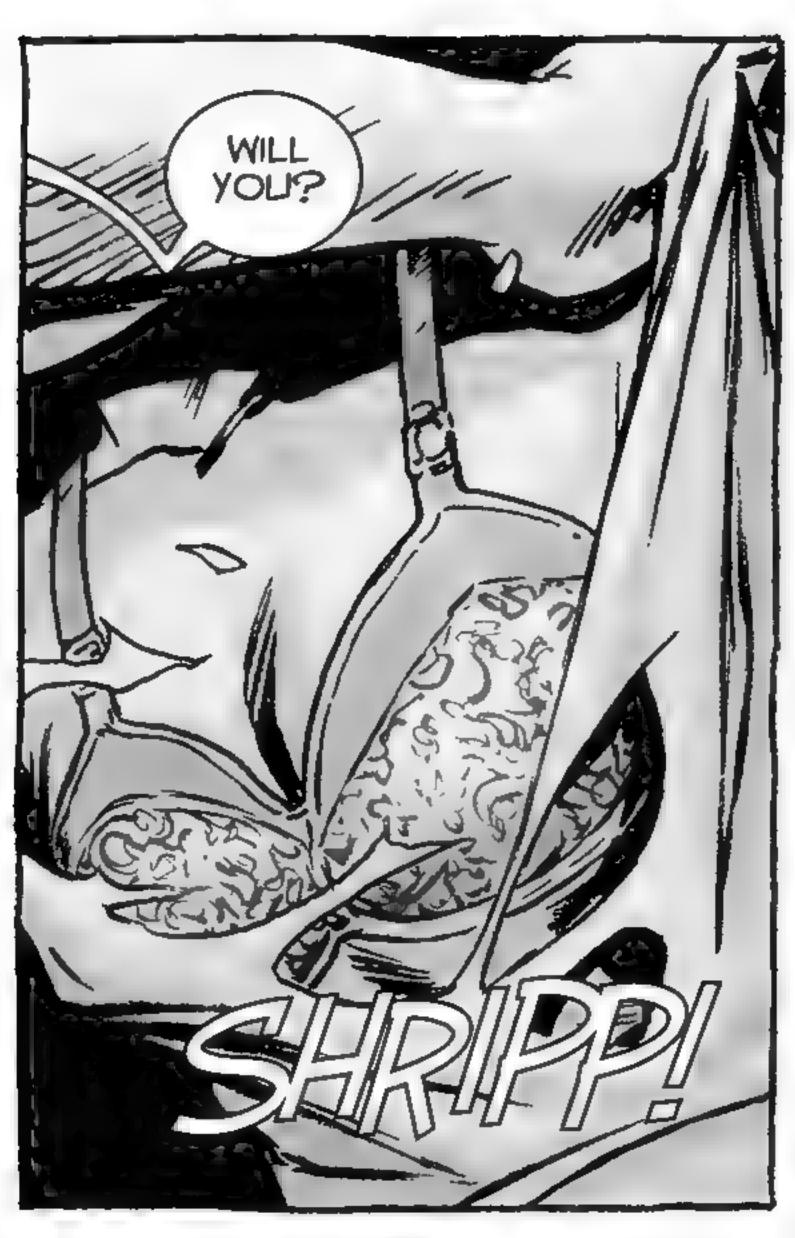








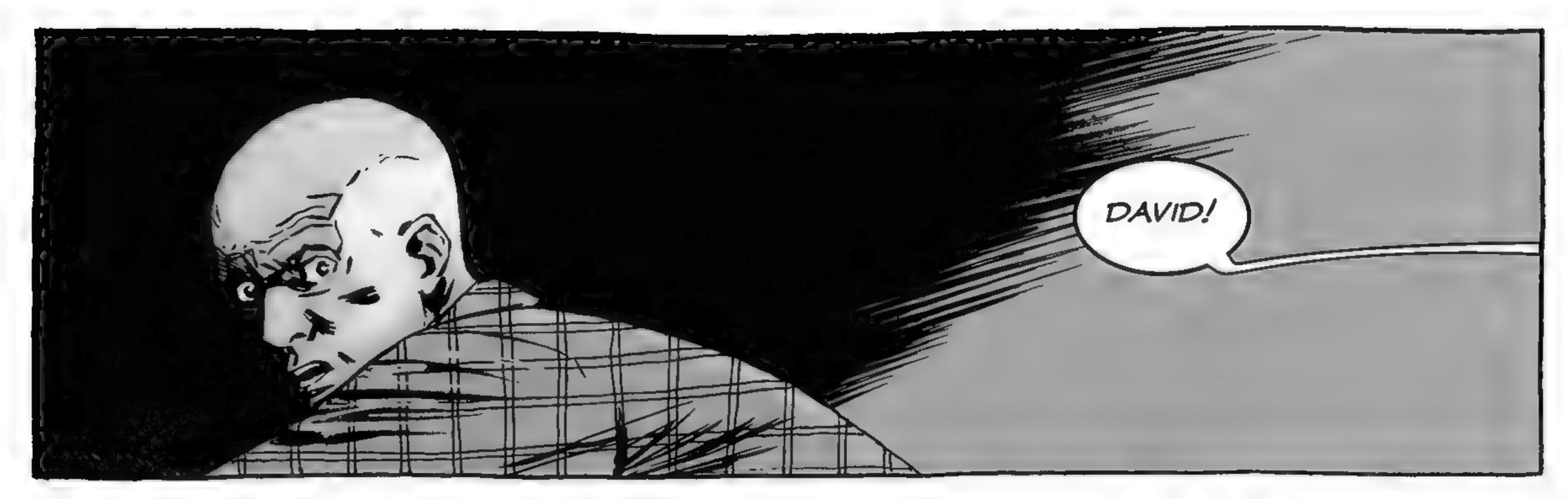






































WRITE TO US AT:

WALKINGDEAD@SKYBOUND.COM

Can you imagine the Governor ever doing something like THAT? Me either, haters. Me either.

I'm so far ahead on writing this book at this point I had to stop to remind myself exactly how this issue ended. Charlie and I are already working on 121... and by the time you're reading this... we'll probably be on 122. CRAZY!

Let's get into some letters.

Bobby Kirkman,

Yo dawg, what it do? I have meant to write several times to complain about the decrease in paper quality for the covers of both The Walking Dead and Invincible for a while now, but never really got around to it. Short end of that, if you need to charge more money per issue, that's fine. I just don't want the ink to run off in my hands.

That's not why I'm writing now, though! I'm writing now to ask that you cease these character special issues you've been publishing. The Governor special had very little original material, and now I've picked up the Tyreese special with similar results. I realize it's my own choice to purchase these, but I don't like having to tell my comic guy "yeah, I didn't really want this... thing. You shouldn't have pulled it for me." It's not that I don't enjoy the couple of pages of original material, but you could just put those at the end of monthly issues. The variants (that I inexplicably NEED to collect) are enough of a drain on my wallet. Come on, man. Eh? Ehhhh..?

Those specials are timed for new seasons of The Walking Dead show, geared more towards fans new to the comic, looking for more insight on who the new characters on the show are. We're very clear about content when we solicit... and really, it's your choice to buy it, right?

Yeah.

YEAH!

That said, I don't want this letter to be all bitching. Invincible and The Walking Dead have been at the top of my list for years now, and I don't see that changing anytime soon. Especially lately, The Walking Dead has had me hooked like a mofo. You clearly know how to write compelling stories and are privileged enough to work with some incredibly skilled artists. Ottley and Adlard are both the bee's knees. There's not much you could do now to make me stop buying your comics. The Governor and Tyreese specials have both just kinda irked me.

If you wanna print this, that'd be fine, but I'd also understand why you would choose not to. I repeat that I am a huge fan--not just of yours, but of what Image has become.

Your Friend in Time, Preston S Davis

Friends appreciate honesty, so thanks, Preston!

Wait, does that mean you DID like the Michonne special? Or did you MISS it! All joking aside, I certainly don't expect long time readers to be buying these reprints. And they are FAR from a shady cash grab. They really are intended to be cheap entry points for fans of the TV show that are thinking of trying the comic but haven't committed to a \$15 dollar TPB.

I try to be as fair as possible, we even gave away the original stories for these specials on Free Comic Book Day this year... so you wouldn't have had to buy any of them if you'd gotten that free comic.

But seriously, just don't buy it if you don't want it.

"Humpty Dumpty was a big fat egg. He was playing on the wall and he broke his leg."

Just this past week my daughter asked me if I realized that Humpty Dumpty wasn't an egg just as Jordan from Vancouver posed the same question in Issue #115. I did a little diggin' into the matter and it turns out one theory is the nursery rhyme was originally a riddle with the answer being an egg. My first response to my daughter was, "But that's not what the Beastie Boys said..."

Love the book, it's the reason I read comics, Bob Wilkinson West "by God" Virginia

Well, who are we to disagree with the Beasties?... Not Daniel Parsons, clearly...

Hey gang.

I love the book - it's one of the only things left on my pull list these days.

That is very sad to hear, actually. Have you tried...
deep breath Saga, East of West, Manhattan Projects,
Velvet, Fatale, Lazarus, Sex Criminals, Satellite Sam,
Pretty Deadly, Chew, Three, Sex, Prophet, The Great
Pacific, Invincible, Thief of Thieves, Clone, Ghosted, or
Nowhere Men? I mean... it seems like there's gotta be
a book in there you'll love! Try more comics! There are
even a few good ones out there that aren't published by
Image.

I saw the first letter in issue 115 and am writing to you with a break from zombie praise.

Humpty Dumpty, in the original meaning of the name, was used to describe an overweight gentleman in 16th century France. The original nursery rhyme was in reference to a cannon that sat guard on a wall - the cannon was refereed to as Humpty Dumpty because of its size and mass.

Lewis Carroll was the first to decide that the Humpty Dumpty character was an egg - he wrote this into 'Through the Looking Glass'.

Thank you! Daniel Parsons

Whoever said you can't learn anything from the Walking Dead is full of shit.

Who said that?! WHO!!!

Hi!

I was just wondering if it's too soon to start petitioning for Kane Hodder to be cast as Abraham in the show. If it is, let me know when I should start. If it's not too soon, seriously, MAKE THIS HAPPEN! He was made for this role! You don't even have to give me credit for it. Just do it!

Thanks Joe

Sorry, Joe. WAAAAY too late for casting suggestions that we don't take seriously anyway. But the good news is that Michael Cudlitz (Band of Brothers, Southland) was cast instead and well, he looks pretty damn cool.

Cudlitz is awesome. You're all going to love him. TRUST ME!

Holy crap!

Just finished reading #115 and I love the tension. This is going

to get real ugly real fast. I can't wait to see where this goes. I also love the guy at the bullet press wearing shorts and flip flops. Cause man I love wearing shorts. Pants suck. Everybody in the book wears pants. Need some shorts.

Charles

Would you believe I'm offering a two-fer on pants related Hacks? You'd take that deal every fucking day of the week, amiright?

This is my first time writing and I would have never thought of it before, but seriously I think I just figured out the biggest plot hole in your entire series! In fact, the biggest plot hole in any undead universe!

Why are they still wearing pant? Like seriously it's been shown in almost every series I have seen that as the walkers start to decay, they lose weight and become a lot skinnier. This means that at least some would indeed be pantless.

Just pointing out the inaccuracies,

Josh Edmonton, Ab CANADA

Well... uh... moving on.

Dear Robert and thankfully not Sina (thought that would get your attention)

I'll start by saying Im loving the series and stoked about all out war finally being here but I want to get printed so its time for criticism.

What have we done?!

How many love stories do you need? its like "awesome I get to read about zombies and the breaking point of man in extreme situations and... nope I get to find out if a guy who talks medieval will hook up with Michonne or not"

and on that note how does Michonne even want love? don't get me wrong if she wants to get laid she damn well can she is a bad ass. Maybe too bad ass for love? plus it feels totally awkward to tell people Michonne is my imaginary world girlfriend if she keeps hooking up with people. Way to make it weird.

It'd be way worse if it were your real world girlfriend doing the same thing. Retreat into your imaginary bubble and be safe.

Yeah... in your imagination, Michonne can be single!

well before I keep trying to think I'm funny I will finish by saying life is a little better knowing I get a new TWD every two weeks. Congratulation on ten years!!

Brad G BFC Emporium, Edmonton

It's not quite every two weeks... but we will be coming out quite rapidly, don't you worry! And thanks... I'm focused on hitting year 20 now!

Dear Walking Dead Staff,

Thank you very much for the creation of this comic, and congrats on a strong start for a 4th season. I am writing to let you know that I was blown away by the incredible inking of Stefano Gaudiano. Him and Mr. Adlard are doing an incredible job with the art, and I figured I should send this letter in support of it.

Huh... what? The art? You're sending a letter in about the art? Okay... fine. Whatever.

My question is regarding the art: When letting Mr. Adlard and now Mr. Gaudiano about new characters being introduced in the series, how much creative freedom are they given in designing them? Do you write a description and they okay the design with you? Is the process even that rigid?

It's pretty much that. Sometimes I send photos of real people to use as a reference point, sometimes I just mention real people to use as a reference point. Other times I just give a name and ethnicity and let Charlie handle the rest. It varies based on how important I deem the character initially.

I ask this because I am an illustration major in art school who has a nerdy curiosity about artistic processes.

Thanks again! John D.

I don't care why, John. Isn't it enough to just have the question answered?!

Kirkman and Co.,

I guess you folks are living it up at NYCC as I write this. I have been enjoying this series for years and have never seen you folks at a Con. For Shame.

That will change soon, count on it.

Anyways, I loved the opening shot for All Out War. The pace was awesome and the art was outstanding. Oy, Stefano! Well done, the Inks were sick here. Love it.

I have to admit, I haven't felt incredibly engaged by this book ever since this Hilltop business began. As I said, I have read this book for a while and (like a few others, I'm sure) I started to see a lot of echoes in this book when Negan was introduced. This wasn't necessarily a bad thing (I love Negan now in fact) but I couldn't help wondering if you MEANT the book and the show to parallel each other the way they did this past year. The Governor and Negan are very different of course but let's be honest... it wasn't exactly BLAZING a new trail. The Hunters storyline? THAT was fucking cool stuff when you dropped it (original) and off the top of my head it was the last time this book REALLY blew me away.

I've stuck around (naturally) and have watched with great interest as The Walking Dead transformed from a cool comic my sister and I shared to the commercial JUGGERNAUT the Brand is now. Robert, I'm very happy for you, you do what you love and that is AWESOME...

I love these type of letters because I'm always waiting for The Turn... and highly anticipate what it will bring...

That being said the overwhelming success of The Walking Dead troubles me sometimes as I began to worry that the quality of the books would start to be affected as your focus began to shift. When Negan showed up in the book around the same time when the Gov showed up in the show I couldn't help but remember when Marvel put Peter "Back In Black" in the comics when Spiderman 3 came out (or when the Xmen went all Black Leather in the books RIGHT when Xmen came out). You mentioned sell out... I was starting to see it.

So now here we are on the Eve of the Dawn of Season 4 (spinoff soon to come) and TWD is going to step up the release schedule. I have had my doubts but to be honest issue 115 put a lot of them to rest. All Out War seems to be ready to shake things up (and what better time to do it than Halloween Season). Bring it. Enjoy the TV show, of course (I'm still in awe of how crazy fast things blew up with this book) but don't forget us faithful Letter Hacks. Keep the Black and Whites fresh, this is some of the best written work of all time considering the cultural impact thus far and y'all can go for miles more. So can we.

Happy Halloween y'all, Happy 10 Year Anniversary, here is to 30 more (and then some)

Cam Stylez

Well, I'm not going anywhere, and I promise, despite the show... I'm no less committed to this book. I did this book for many years while doing a lot of work at Marvel Comics that was very time consuming and this is really no different. Also, a lot of the things in the comic currently are things I had planned well before the show ever existed, so I promise I'd be doing this stuff if the show had never happened... it's just... less people would be reading it.

I'm happy the show happened, and I really do enjoy all the success The Walking Dead and all involved are experiencing but I do go to great efforts to not let it CHANGE this book. I think I've succeeded thus far and I hope to continue to do so.

I saw this headline today:

North Korea warns of 'all-out war' as it refuses to sign pact with US

Look at what you started, Kirkman.

Keenan Stacy Rootstown, Ohio

Something tells me that North Korea would probably be the safest place to be during a zombie apocalypse. Or at least, that's what they'd lead us to believe...

Not touching this one.

Be back here in two weeks for Part 4 of All Out War...in which a familiar face joins the war effort.

-Sean Mackiewicz

Oh, man... who could it be?! WHO?!

-Robert Kirkman

















